

THE CLAIMS

What is claimed:

1. A sustained-release composition comprising a core wherein said core comprises one or more active agents in combination with excipients consisting essentially of one or more prolamins and one or more gelling agents, and optionally containing one or more additional excipients.
2. The composition of claim 1, wherein said one or more gelling agents is about 0.5 wt.% to about 50 wt.% of the combined weight of said one or more prolamins and said one or more gelling agents.
3. The composition of claim 1, wherein said one or more prolamins is selected from the group consisting of zein, hordein, gliadin, kafirin, secalinin, aveline, panincin, orzenin, and mixtures thereof.
4. The composition of claim 1, wherein said one or more gelling agents is selected from the group consisting of plant extracts, gums, synthetic or natural polysaccharides, polypeptides, alginates, synthetic polymers, and mixtures thereof.
5. The composition of claim 1, wherein said one or more active agents is a pharmaceutical agent.
6. The composition of claim 5, wherein said pharmaceutical agent is selected from the group consisting of pseudoephedrine hydrochloride, pseudoephedrine sulfate, acetaminophen, diclofenac sodium, verapamil, glipizide, nifedipine, felodipine, betahistine, albuterol, acrivastine, omeprazole, misoprostol, tramadol, oxybutynin, trimebutine, ciprofloxacin, antifungal agents, analgesic agents, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs including salicylates, pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof and mixtures thereof.
7. The composition of claim 4, wherein said one or more gelling agent is

Table 1

xanthan gum.

8. The composition of claim 1, wherein said one or more additional excipients is selected from the group consisting of a starches, modified starches, and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose.

9. A delayed-onset composition comprises a core and a coating wherein said coating is dry-compressed and comprises excipients consisting essentially of one or more prolamins and one or more gelling agents, and optionally containing one or more additional excipients.

10. The composition of claim 9, wherein said one or more prolamins is selected from the group consisting of zein, hordein, gliadin, kafirin, secalinin, avenin, panincin, orzenin, and mixtures thereof.

11. The composition of claim 9, wherein said gelling agent is selected from the group consisting of plant extracts, gums, synthetic or natural polysaccharides, polypeptides, alginates, synthetic polymers, and mixtures thereof.

12. The composition of claim 9, wherein said core comprises one or more active agents.

13. The composition of claim 12, wherein said one or more active agents is a pharmaceutical agent.

14. The composition of claim 13, wherein said pharmaceutical agent is selected from the group consisting of pseudoephedrine hydrochloride, pseudoephedrine sulfate, acetaminophen, diclofenac sodium, verapamil, glipizide, nifedipine, felodipine, betahistine, albuterol, acrivastine, omeprazole, misoprostol, tramadol, oxybutynin, trimebutine, ciprofloxacin, antifungal agents, analgesic agents, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs including salicylates, pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof and mixtures thereof.

15. The composition of claim 11, wherein said gelling agent is xanthan gum.

16. The composition of claim 10, further comprising an additional excipient.

17. The composition of claim 16, wherein said one or more additional excipients is selected from the group consisting of a starches, modified starches, and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose.

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